



# Methodological Evaluation of Community Health Centre Systems in Tanzania: A Randomized Field Trial

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## Abstract

Community health centres (CHCs) play a crucial role in the healthcare system of Tanzania, yet their efficiency and effectiveness remain under scrutiny. A comprehensive search strategy was employed across multiple databases including PubMed and Scopus. Studies were included if they utilised randomized field trials to assess CHCs' performance and efficiency. Methodological quality was assessed using the Cochrane Risk of Bias Tool, resulting in a final sample of 15 studies. The analysis revealed a mixed pattern of methodological rigor across the reviewed studies, with some demonstrating high adherence to randomized field trial principles but others showing significant deviations that could impact the validity of their findings. A notable finding was the variation in reported efficiency gains among different CHCs, ranging from an average improvement of 15% to over 30%, indicating substantial variability. The methodological quality assessment highlighted key areas for improvement in future research, particularly in ensuring consistent application of randomized field trial methodologies and robust data collection protocols. Future studies should prioritise rigorous methodology adherence to enhance the reliability and generalizability of their findings. Standardised reporting guidelines are recommended to facilitate better comparison across different CHCs in Tanzania. Treatment effect was estimated with  $\text{text}\{\text{logit}\}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i$ , and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

**Keywords:** *Sub-Saharan, African, SocialCare, SystematicReview, RandomizedControlledTrial, PublicHealth, EvaluationCriteria*

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